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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AIR FREIGHT DOWN 9.5% IN FIRST NINE MONTHS OF '85

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 24 — Air freight declined 9.5 percent during the first nine months of 1985, compared with the same period a year earlier, and was down 6.1 percent in September, based on traffic results of 22 airlines reporting such data to the Air Transport Association.

Domestic air freight during the first three quarters of the year fell 11.7 percent. Mail traffic by air rose 2.9 percent. Total domestic air cargo, including both freight and mail, declined 8.5 percent.

International air freight of the U.S. carriers during the first three quarters was down 6.5 percent. Mail traffic was off 2.0 percent. Total international air cargo fell 6.0 percent.

For the month of September, domestic air freight was down 9.5 percent. Mail traffic fell 3.9 percent, and total air cargo registered a decline of 8.3 percent.

International air freight of the U.S. carriers in September fell 1.9 percent. Mail had a slight gain of 0.6 percent, and international air cargo as a whole was down 1.6 percent.

CARGO FLOWN IN SCHEDULED DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

U.S. AIRLINE INDUSTRY

REVENUE TON-MILES
(In Thousands)

	DOMESTIC OPERATIONS			INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS			TOTAL FREIGHT	TOTAL CARGO
	FREIGHT	MAIL	TOTAL	FREIGHT	MAIL	TOTAL		
SEPTEMBER 1985	282,431	82,331	364,762	251,970	33,034	285,004	534,401	649,766
SEPTEMBER 1984	312,047	85,681	397,728	256,936	32,844	289,780	568,983	687,508
PERCENT CHANGE	(9.5)	(3.9)	(8.3)	(1.9)	0.6	(1.6)	(6.1)	(5.5)
9 MONTHS 1985	2,516,356	827,345	3,343,701	1,934,167	287,007	2,221,174	4,450,523	5,564,875
9 MONTHS 1984	2,848,861	803,871	3,652,732	2,069,708	292,914	2,362,622	4,918,569	6,015,354
PERCENT CHANGE	(11.7)	2.9	(8.5)	(6.5)	(2.0)	(6.0)	(9.5)	(7.5)

NOTE: Carriers included: AirCal, Alaska, Aloha, American, Braniff, Continental, Delta, Eastern, Federal Express, Flying Tiger, Frontier, Hawaiian, Northwest, Ozark, Pan American, Piedmont, PSA, Republic, Trans World, United, USAir and Western.